GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:156
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2002
IMPORT OF LNG FROM AUSTRALIA
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY;YEMPARALA VENKATESWARA RAO

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Australia has offered Natural Gas at competitive rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) to what extent India can save its import bills by importing gas from Australia;

(d) whether any decision has been taken in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.
STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.156 BY SHRI Y.V. RAO AND COL. (RETD.) SONA RAM CHOUDHARY FOR ANSWER ON 28.11.2002 REGARDING IMPORT OF LNG FRO AUSTRALIA.

(a) to (e): No, Sir. Natural Gas can be imported from Australia in the form of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)LNG is under Open General Licence (OGL) list with permission for 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)The following Australian companies are participating in three LNG import projects along the East Coast of India:-

(i) M/s Woodside, Australia is a partner in the consortium viz. Dakshin Bharat Energy Consortium Ltd. selected by the Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation (TIDCO) to establish an LNG terminal at Ennore, near Chennai.

(ii) M/s BHP of Australia has obtained Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) approval to set up an LNG terminal on the Eas coast of India.

(iii) M/s Australian LNG has entered into a Heads of Agreement with M/s Vavasi Oil & Gas to import LNG at Gopalpur, Orissa.

However, the above projects have not made any progress.